



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 18 NEW LEARN AND EARN SCHOOLS OPEN FOR FALL**  
*Three New Schools Open Today in Cleveland, Johnston and Warren Counties*

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced that 18 new *Learn and Earn* Schools will open across the state this fall. Three of the new schools, the Cleveland Early College High School in Shelby, the Johnston County Early College Academy in Smithfield and the Warren Early College High School in Warrenton, open today.

“With 18 new schools opening this fall, more students than ever have a chance to attend a *Learn and Earn* school and earn a free associate’s degree or two years of college credit along with their high school diploma,” said Easley. “*Learn and Earn* and the EARN grants are the best thing to happen to education in a long time. These new schools are providing thousands of students the opportunity to get a free college education and prepare for successful in careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”

The Cleveland Early College High School is a partnership among Cleveland County Public Schools and Cleveland Community College. The new school will provide a challenging, student-centered curriculum to ensure all of its students are prepared for college and work. Cleveland Early College High School seeks first generation college students and students at risk of dropping out of school before graduation. Teachers will use research-based instructional strategies and engage students with problem-based learning, collaborative learning, problem solving, and work-based educational experiences.

The Johnston County Early College Academy is located on the campus of Johnston County Community College and offers students an opportunity to earn two years of college credit as well as a high school diploma in five years. Johnston County Early College Academy will partner with the existing Johnston County Middle College High School to offer a broad range of educational opportunities to a diverse student population. The Johnston Early College Academy will focus on meeting the needs of both students and the 21st century economy of Johnston County.

The Warren Early College High School is a partnership among Vance Granville Community College and Warren County Schools. The small, autonomous high school will provide a relevant and rigorous academic focus along with personalized relationships among faculty, parents and students. The school will address the needs of students who are mature, independent and prepared to meet the challenges of a progressive school environment. Students will graduate with a high school diploma and an associate’s degree.

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